

**Middletown, NY** - After negotiations stalled with the City of Middletown regarding a number of railroad boxcars being stored on rail tracks running behind the backyards of city residents, Congressman Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) today secured a commitment from President and CEO of Regional Rail, LLC Bob Parker to have the disputed boxcars removed tonight. Regional Rail is the parent company for the Middletown and New Jersey Railroad, LLC (MNJ).

"My office has received a number of complaints from Middletown residents living along the rail line regarding the storage of box cars," said Hinchey. "Members of the community, including elected officials from the city, were concerned about the placement of the rail cars because children were playing on them and they were impacting the quality of life in the neighborhood. We were able to work directly with the president of the rail line to secure a commitment for the removal of the four or five box cars that were presenting the majority of the problem. Legally, the railroad is allowed to store the cars where they are currently placed, so I am appreciative that the president of the railroad has agreed to remove the boxcars of most concern to allay the concerns of people in the neighborhood."

Hinchey previously worked to settle a similar dispute with Regional Rail. The congressman also led the fight in 2006 to prevent the previous owner of the MNJ Railroad, Chartwell International, from building an unregulated solid waste transfer station on railroad properties in Middletown.